



Fall 2008

NHDOT Employees Take Pride in Their Work and Like Their Jobs and Co-Workers

Feedback in First Survey in Over a Decade Cites Pay, Morale and Communication as Areas that Need Improvement

The first survey of NHDOT employees since the mid-1990's has produced a strong response with timely insights on the state of the workforce.

Nearly 60% of the employees completed the survey, which sought feedback on subject areas that included safety, employee-management relations, training and professional development, job satisfaction, organization and co-workers.

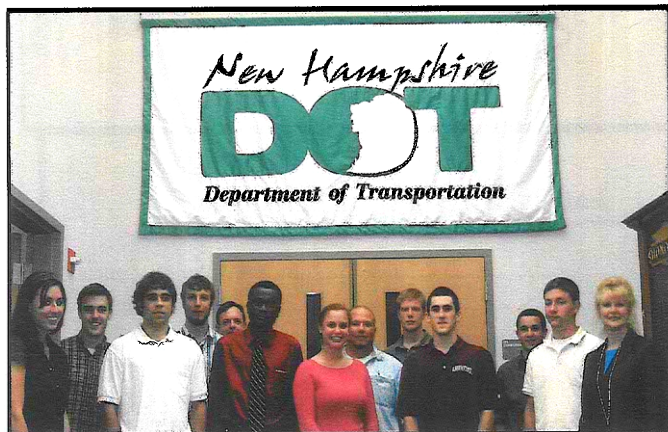
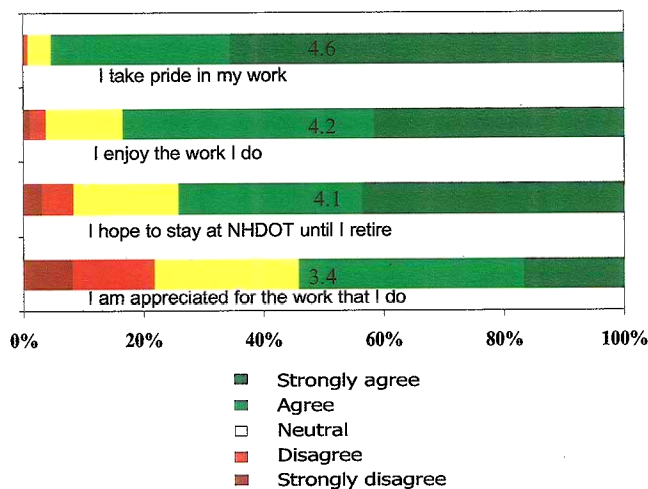
"Your thoughts and opinions will guide us in our efforts to improve internal communications, double our resolve to create a safe and healthy work environment, and ensure that we are all on the same page as we meet future challenges and opportunities," Commissioner Campbell said.

The results of the survey clearly show that NHDOT employees like and take pride in their work and value their co-workers. When asked what three things they like most about the NHDOT, the top employee responses were (1) Coworkers (hard-working, cooperative, ethical); (2) Benefits (flex-time, time off, health insurance, retirement); and (3) Challenging and interesting variety of work (tangible results, camaraderie). Other top responses included working with the public and giving back to the community, and job security and training.

On the negative side, the top three employee responses when asked what they like least about NHDOT: (1) Low pay; (2) Poor work ethic among a minority of employees; and (3) Lack of funding (staffing shortfalls, lack of equipment, working conditions). Other areas of concern include "communication", where nearly 60% disagreed it's effective at all levels, and "morale", where less than 40% say it's better now than last year.

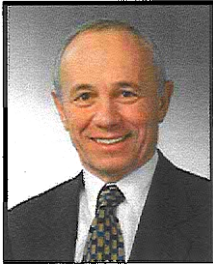
Top challenges cited included (1) Finding a way to do more with less; (2) Securing adequate funding; and (3) Retaining and recruiting workers - especially replacing an aging workforce.

Individual Job Satisfaction



Interns Bring Youthful Enthusiasm to Several NHDOT Bureaus

An energetic collection of college students spent the summer of 2008 interning in several NHDOT Bureaus. The interns provided valuable assistance while gaining unique insights about possible careers in transportation. The interns held a final gathering on August 12 where they were thanked for their assistance and provided input on how future intern programs could be improved. Joining in a group photo is Human Resources Administrator Fran Buczynski (right).



Commissioner's Corner

by George N. Campbell, Jr.

This is No Time to be Negative about Transportation in New Hampshire

It would be easy to focus on the negatives when looking at the current transportation challenges in New Hampshire.

In addition to skyrocketing gasoline prices that are affecting everyone's commuting and travel budgets, there are numerous other price spikes that are seriously impacting the ability to maintain transportation systems and infrastructure. Asphalt costs have jumped 33% since the paving season started. Steel and concrete costs have risen dramatically, due in part to global demand. Winter maintenance will also cost more with salt prices up 25%, and heating oil and carbide blades for state snowplows both doubling in cost from last year.

Driving and motor vehicle registrations are both down, making it unlikely the state's Highway Fund will meet revenue projections.

Mother Nature certainly hasn't helped this summer with a devastating tornado hitting the state in July, followed by heavy rains and flash flooding that caused an estimated \$2.5 million in road and rail damage in the Lakes Region.

But why dwell on the bad news? A lot of good things are happening in transportation in New Hampshire. Much-needed bridge construction and highway improvements are well underway on the Spaulding Turnpike in Rochester. The recent opening of the new Cross Street Bridge in Salem over Interstate 93 is a milestone in the rebuilding of I-93 between Salem and Manchester. Extensive work going on at Exit 1 in Salem involves the replacement of seven Red List bridges. Construction is nearly complete on a new bus station at Exit 5 in Londonderry that will significantly enhance transit service along the I-93 corridor. Air travelers from throughout the region will certainly benefit from the ongoing construction of the access road connecting Manchester Airport to the Everett Turnpike in Bedford.

There are also plenty of positive things to say about the maintenance and preservation of New Hampshire's highway system. New Hampshire Department of Transportation crews responded quickly and effectively to the flood-related washouts in late July and early August, restoring more than two-dozen roads to service and once again demonstrating their skills and dependability. Paving work continues even as the Maine DOT has shut down its resurfacing program for the season due to high costs. More Red List bridges are either being replaced or repaired.

In fact, the "can do" attitude persists and is even flourishing at the NHDOT in the face of adversity. Tough times demand resourcefulness and innovation, both in the public and private sectors. For example, a wide range of energy-saving initiatives are being undertaken by several NHDOT bureaus, from burning waste oil for heat, to more efficient lighting, to monitoring idling and tire pressure in a fleet of vehicles that annually uses nearly two million gallons of fuel.

With the cost of travel and providing transportation continues to take a bigger bite out of personal, contractor and agency budgets, it's more important than ever to make wise decisions on how to raise and spend transportation dollars. I believe we are all up to the challenge.

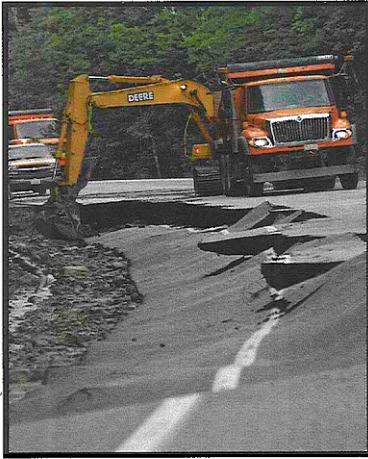


Committed to Excellence.
Safety, Innovation, and the Future.

Fall 2008

Governor.....John H. Lynch
Commissioner.....George N. Campbell
On the Move Editor.....Bill Boynton

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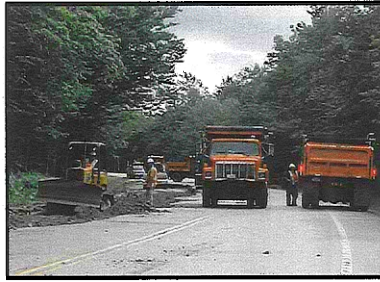


**Heavy rains,
wind, flooding,
road washouts,
rail damage and
...yes, even a
tornado...**



A rare tornado followed by severe weather marked by heavy rains struck New Hampshire over a two-week period in late July and early August. In addition to significant personal property damage, state and local highway crews were kept busy clearing roads and rebuilding sections washed out by flash flooding.

The terrifying tornado hit without warning around mid-day on July 24, cutting a destructive 50-mile swath through 12 towns from Deerfield to Madison. One person died in the tornado and more than 150 homes were either damaged or destroyed. An estimated 8,400 acres of timber were blown down by the twister. Several roads were blocked for hours by fallen trees. New Hampshire Department of Transportation crews opened the roads using chainsaws and assisted local towns with some of the cleanup.



The heavy rains that followed over the next couple of weeks hit the Lakes Region particularly hard, washing out sections of over two-dozen roads and causing an estimated \$2.5 million in damages, including \$1 million in damages to the Concord-Lincoln rail line. Most of the roads were back open to traffic within a couple of days. The most heavily damaged roads were sections of Waukegan Road and Winona Road (photo above left) in New Hampton, which required a \$700,000 contract (Weaver Brothers, of Bow, NH) to fix. The State of New Hampshire is seeking Federal disaster aid to help pay for the cost of the repair work.

Yet another severe storm on September 6 produced several inches of rain that led to the overflowing of a pond in Manchester near I-93 and US 3 that flooded a nearby neighborhood.



Editor's note: the following item from a newsletter produced by Fort Mountain Timber Company of Allenstown describes the scene following the July 24 tornado at the Valley Brook Farm off of NH 107 at the Epsom-Deerfield town line.

"After the storm had moved past their area, they noticed the cattle that were in the field were missing. Meanwhile, NHDOT trucks arrived to clear the road. While looking around the workers could hear the bellowing of the cattle. After two hours of searching by the Yeaton family and DOT workers, the cattle were found trapped by downed trees in the culvert. They had taken shelter just before the storm hit and could not get out. DOT workers cleared debris and downed trees from one end of the culvert and helped to coax the cattle out of their storm shelter. The Yeaton family was amazed at how the cattle knew to take shelter in that culvert before the tornado hit."



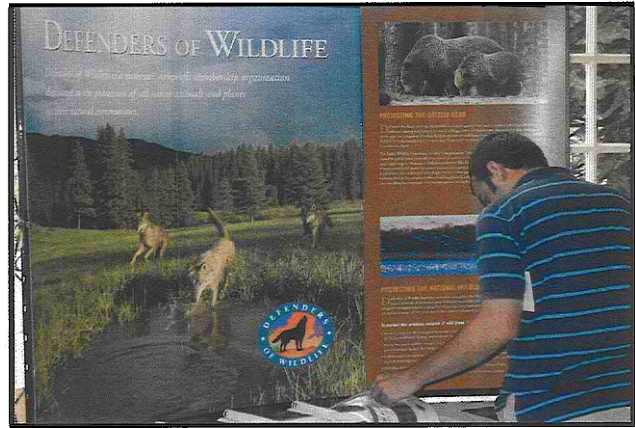
Environment Bureau Hosts Regional Conference on Transportation and Wildlife Issues

Why did the chicken (and for that matter the raccoon, the porcupine, the deer, and the moose) cross the road?

That hardly touches on the wide range of wildlife questions and issues addressed at the "Northeastern Transportation and Wildlife Conference" held on September 21-23 in Meredith.

Hosted by the NHDOT's Environment Bureau, the third biennial event brought together biologists, transportation professionals, planners and others to share their expertise on the interaction between wildlife and transportation systems. Topics discussed at this year's conference included experimental crossing structures, transportation-wildlife planning initiatives, studies of wildlife-road interactions, and "roadkill hotspots".

Representatives of seven states and three Canadian Provinces attended the conference. Commissioner Campbell welcomed the participants, saying they represented "diverse groups with a passion for transportation safety solutions and protecting animal species." The Commissioner said it's important to link environmental issues early when planning transportation projects. Environment Bureau employees involved in the planning of the conference included Cathy Goodman (Chairperson), Christine Perron and Jon Evans.



State Prison Inmates Helping Cut Back Trees Along Interstate 93 in Lakes Region



Minimum Security inmates from Laconia State Prison have proven quite helpful this summer in helping to cut back trees infringing on the right-of-way along Interstate 93. Their work has freed up NHDOT Highway Maintainers for projects requiring more specific skills. The wood that's gathered will be used to heat various NHDOT patrol facilities next winter.

An ongoing lack of manpower to deal with tree overgrowth along the highways is being addressed to some degree by the use of inmates from the New Hampshire State Prison in Laconia.

According to Operations Director Butch Knowlton, the renewed relationship with the Department of Corrections has been "productive while allowing our more skilled employees to work on the paving and drainage pipe improvements that are so desperately needed."

The minimum security inmates are transported daily by a rented van and supplied with the tools and guidance to do the job. Work began this summer above Exit 22 and continued northward.

Among the reasons cited for cutting back the trees along the Interstate are: (1) safety for motorists who may leave the highway; (2) to help prevent shading the pavement areas in the winter; (3) providing sight distance for traffic signs; (4) keeping the ditchlines free for water flow; and (5) protecting the effectiveness of guardrail.

(Materials and Research)

New Pavement Management Van to Help With Smoothing the Ride for Motorists

The Pavement Management (PM) Section of the Materials and Research Bureau is in the process of replacing its current data collection vehicle.

The vehicle will be used to measure rutting, roughness, and surface distress (cracking) on the State-maintained roadway network in support of the Department's computer-based Pavement Management System (PMS) and yearly Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS).

The current vehicle was purchased in 1998 and is quickly nearing the end of its service life. The selection process was completed in August 2008, and the successful vendor was Pathway Services, Inc., of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The new vehicle is expected to streamline the data collection process, while providing more comprehensive data than has ever been collected previously. Some of the information that will be collected by the new vehicle includes the following:

- Visual imaging with location data along the Right-of-Way.
- Detailed rutting information (1,280 points measured across the lane instead of the traditional 5 points measured with the current vehicle).
- Pavement roughness (IRI) and ride quality (Ride Number).
- High resolution video of the pavement surface (1 mm resolution).
- GPS coordinates.

The ROW and pavement imaging can be used to "ride the road" directly from the user's desktop. Other optional sensor equipment that is being considered for this vehicle include:

- Right shoulder ROW camera – captures video of right shoulder for asset inventory.
- Rear facing camera – captures video in the opposite direction of travel.
- Vertical clearance sensors – provide clearance measurements for bridges, overhead utilities/signs, trees, etc.
- 360-degree camera – collects immersive imaging of intersections, railroad crossings, etc.
- Edge dropoff sensor – provides pavement edge/shoulder dropoff information.
- Asset extraction capabilities – inventories signs, guardrails, catch basins, etc.



A sample image from the right shoulder right of way camera taken on I-93.



The Pathway Pavement Data Collection Vehicle.

The data will primarily be used by the PM Section, but will be made available to other users across the Department.

According to Eric Thibodeau, Chief of the Pavement Management Section, "The Section is very excited about this vehicle and the newer technology, as it represents a giant leap forward for the PMS and the Department."

The Pavement Management Section is expected to take delivery of the vehicle in the summer of 2009.



NEW HIRES

Juanita Andrew, Secretary 2, Traffic
Shane Bilodeau, Highway Maintainer 1, District 6
Marc Biron, Financial Analyst, Finance and Contracts
Michael Darrow, Highway Maintainer 1, District 2
Gary Dossett, Program Specialist 3, Commissioner's Office
Anthony Fontaine, Highway Maintainer 2, Traffic
Ronald Guyette, Civil Engineer 3, Construction
Kelly Hacking, Human Res. Assistant 3, Human Resources
John Hamilton, Highway Maintainer 1, District 6
Shannon Hartley, Highway Maintainer 1, District 3

Donald Hunter, Highway Maintainer 2, District 6
Brian Lassar, Highway Maintainer 2, District 2
William McAdams, Highway Maintainer 2, District 3
William Nichols, Traffic Management Spec. 1, Traffic
Nancy Perkins, Highway Maintainer 2, District 3
Corey Spetelunas, Civil Engineer 1, Highway Design
Peter Thompson, Highway Maintainer 2, District 3
Lee Veilleux, Highway Maintainer 2, District 1
Todd Webster, Highway Maintainer 1, District 1
Keith Whitehill, Highway Maintainer 3, District 6

PROMOTIONS

Barry Arseneau, Earth Scientist 2, Materials & Research
William Bailey, Highway Maintainer 2, District 2
Christopher Balch, Bridge Maintainer 3, Bridge Maintenance
Scott Beaulac, Heavy Equipment Mechanic, Mechanical Serv.
Brian Bruck, Bridge Maintainer 3, Bridge Maintenance
Adam Chestnut, Civil Engineer 4, Construction
Thomas Clement, Bridge Construction Foreman, Bridge Main.
George Davis, Bridge Maintainer 2, Bridge Maintenance
Susan Dearborn, Supervisor 4, Compliance & Stewardship
Richard Drew, Highway Maintainer 2, District 6
David Evans, Highway Patrol Foreman, District 5
John Faulkner, Assistant Highway Patrol Foreman, District 5

Clayton Green, Highway Maintainer 2, District 2
Joseph Ingerson, Bridge Construction Sup't, Bridge Main.
Thomas Jameson, Civil Engineer 6, Planning
Kevin LaPointe, Engineering Technician 4, Construction
Mark Lavoie, Ass't Highway Patrol Foreman, District 1
Daniel Pare, Highway Maintainer 3, District 4
Geoffrey Peirce, Highway Patrol Foreman, District 5
Wayne Perkins, Ass't Highway Patrol Foreman, District 3
William Piper, Bridge Maintainer 3, Bridge Maintenance
William Sheppard, Highway Patrol Foreman, District 3
Carol Spoerl, Clerk 4, Turnpikes
Russell St. Pierre, Environmentalist 4, Comm. Office

RETIREMENTS (years of service)

Raymond Bergeron, District 6 (24)
Chester Braley, District 2 (22)
Arthur Brown, District 6 (10)
Kenneth Knowlton, Traffic (35)
Timothy LaRoche, Traffic (31)
Stephen Riordon, District 2 (25)
David Vaillancourt, Traffic (19)
Stephen Whipple, District 5 (32)



Christopher Clement is the NHDOT's new Deputy Commissioner, following his confirmation by the Executive Council on October 8. Chris previously worked in top management positions with the Pease Development Authority and Goss International. He will be concentrating his efforts in the administrative areas that include Finance & Contracts, Human Resources, Labor Compliance and Stewardship & Compliance.



SERVICE AWARDS



October through December 2008

35 YEARS

George Rolland, Highway Design
Thomas Jelley, Mechanical Services

30 YEARS

William Little, Bridge Design
Betty Plante, Highway Maintenance
Pamela Mitchell, District 5
Alan Cilley, Construction
Walter Keuenhoff, Traffic
Dennis Frost, Mechanical Services
Robert Burns, District 4

25 YEARS

Sarah Monette, District 2
Jack Berquist, District 4
Montgomery Davis, District 4
Michael Mead, Bridge Maintenance

20 YEARS

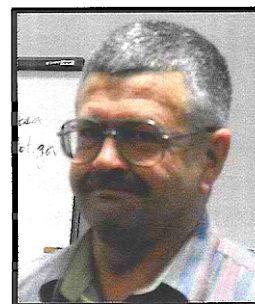
Richard Fenoff, District 1
Joshua Hicks, Highway Design
Wayne England, District 3
Lennox Grasmuck, District 4
Mark Brady, District 5
Wayne Clifford, Highway Design
George Boewe, District 3
Robert Landry, Highway Design
Marc Bergeron, Bridge Maintenance
Kevin King, District 5
Ted Bennetter, Highway Design
Patricia Bokousky, Turnpikes
David O'Shea, Turnpikes

15 YEARS

Lorraine Felladore, Human Resources
Arthur Grenier, District 4
Vincent Benincasa, Turnpikes
George Lemay, Right-of-Way
Matthew Courser, Materials & Research
Daniel Afflick, Highway Design
Wendy Grygiel, Turnpikes

10 YEARS

Richard Robinson, Bridge Maintenance
Edward Sisk, Turnpikes
Melody Boucher, District 5
Harvey Levasseur, District 4
Jeffrey Kibbee, Materials & Research
Thomas Cutter, Highway Design
Allen Smith, District 5
Cheryl Rasmussen, Highway Design



Joel Hildreth (Bridge Maintenance) was recognized for 25 years of State service at the October major staff meeting.

Help is on the Way; State Patrol Helps Stranded I-93 Motorists

Editor's note: The NHDOT's Service Patrols on I-93 in Salem and Windham have proven to be a big hit with motorists since being introduced in May. This article written by Terry Date was published in the August 15 edition of the Lawrence Eagle Tribune. It's being reprinted with permission.

It's 3:30 in the afternoon on Interstate 93, and rain taps against the orange pickup's windshield.

Pete Jaskal, 52, of the state Department of Transportation, is hunting for motorists in distress - cars with dry tanks, flattened tires or otherwise mired in difficulty.

Like other drivers with the pilot Service Patrol program, Jaskal will pour gas into empty tanks, change tires or point the lost in the right direction. In short, he gets stranded motorists off the roadside and out of the way. This is good for them and good for traffic on the congestion-prone highway. An hour into his shift, near Exit 3 in Windham, he rumbles into the breakdown lane behind a minivan with New Jersey license plates and a flat tire.

There are seven people in the van - a mother, father and five children. They are on vacation and gladly accept Jaskal's offer of help. The mother, Miriam Eidelman, called AAA for roadside assistance and was told it would be an hour before a wrecker arrived. She canceled the request after Jaskal stopped to help. He jacked up their van, removed the lug nuts, yanked off the flat and hung the spare in place. Kaila Eidelman, 6, clung to her mother as traffic whooshed past. The Lakewood, New Jersey family was grateful for the help.

"Wonderful," Miriam Eidelman said. "I think it's a wonderful service. Imagine us waiting on the side of the road for an hour with little kids after we've been on the road since 10."

Jaskal and the others with the Service Patrol can imagine just about anything. They made 357 stops during heavy commuting hours in May, June and July, patrolling a loop on I-93 from Exit 4 to the Massachusetts border. The six-month pilot program, which began May 1, is at the halfway point.

Two weeks ago, patrol worker John Sartorelli, 26, was heading north through Windham. Through the trees, on the southbound side, he saw a car broken down in the passing lane with traffic backed up far behind the vehicle. The driver was an older woman, and she was flustered.

"The whole time I was there, we had people yelling at us, 'Get out of the road,'" Sartorelli said.

He radioed for help, and he and a helper pushed the car off the road. That same week, Sartorelli discovered a motorist on the roadside with his convertible top opening and closing. Sartorelli took out the back seat to reach the top's motor. He put the motor in neutral and closed the top.

Ed Coulombe recently came across a motorist on the roadside looking for Interstate 89 north. The problem? The driver was heading south toward Massachusetts.

DOT engineer Pam Mitchell heard a story about a service worker helping the same motorist for two different problems at two different locations within an hour.

Peter Stamnas, head of the I-93 construction project, said patrollers usually assist people with minor problems, but have come across accidents with injured motorists and provided help.

People break down in precarious spots. Southbound at Exit 3 in Windham is one such spot. Helping people makes the job worthwhile, they said.

"Most of the time we run into people who are distressed," Coulombe said.

Often, people who are helped want to give the patrol workers money. Either that or they are in a hurry to pull away, thinking they are going to be handed a bill. The service is free and no money is accepted.



New Jersey resident Yitzchok Eidelman peers around the back of his van as District 5's Pete Jaskal changes a flat tire. The NHDOT's Service Patrols on I-93 have helped numerous motorists since they began in May.

(continued on page 9)

“That Was Probably the Dumbest Thing I’ve Ever Done, But I’m Glad I Did It”



Adam Lucas

Adam Lucas had no plans to be a hero that sunny September day. It just worked out that way. The 22-year old Technical Support Specialist (Department of Information Technology/DOT) was heading north on Interstate 93 with his girlfriend Amanda to visit relatives in Littleton when it happened in Sugar Hill. A few hundred feet ahead a southbound car veered off the highway across the median, launched into an embankment and flipped over. Adam’s immediate reaction was to pull over and help.

“As I ran towards the car I could see it was on fire. I started to have second thoughts. I didn’t expect the driver to be alive.”

But she was alive, barely conscious and hanging upside down by her seatbelt. Adam was soon joined by another “Good Samaritan” who had come upon the scene, Scott Clark, a former NHDOT Turnpikes employee.

“We knew we had to act quickly. The fire was getting more intense and the smoke was making it hard to breathe. It was very hot and I was worried her legs were going to start burning. While I held onto her, Scott used a special tool he had brought to cut the seatbelt and free her from the car. We carried her to his truck and laid her on the tailgate area. The tires on her car popped and it was fully engulfed in flames.”

The driver of the car, Lisa Ladd, 54, of Epsom suffered a broken arm and ankle, but she was lucky to be alive. A State Trooper who arrived on the scene called Lucas and Clarke “two great guys. .(who) probably saved her life by doing that.”

As he recalls those few minutes of his life when he acted so heroically to save a stranger’s life, Adam Lucas admits he knew he had stumbled onto a very dangerous situation.

“Part of me wanted to get out of there, but I could not leave her. That was probably the dumbest thing I’ve ever done, but I’m glad I did it.”

Adam believes he was able to act because he had grown up among relatives who were always helping others and he was conditioned to do the same. Both his parents work at Littleton Hospital and his grandfather was a paramedic. He also remembers someone helping his family several years ago when they struck a moose in Franconia Notch.

“I would like to think someone else would do the same thing. Given the right situation, everything just kicks in.”



A cellphone photo of the car fully engulfed in flames.

(service patrols - continued)

“People are amazed that they are getting something for nothing,” said Pete Wilsie, 55, a Service Patrol worker from Derry. “Especially with gas going through the roof.”

This isn’t the first time the state has run a courtesy patrol. It did so in the 1960s. Jim Schunemann, a foreman from Bow, recalled one of those drivers, a happy-go-lucky man nicknamed “Night Stalker” for the late hours he worked.

“In those days, he did (Interstate) 89 from Concord to Hopkinton,” Schunemann said. “He would give them gas and directions. That was his job.”

It remains to be seen if the current service patrol will continue next year. Stamnas, Mitchell and others will evaluate the pilot program when it ends this fall.

Meanwhile, those receiving help are all for it - the family from New Jersey among them.

“It makes me feel great,” Yitzchok Eidelman said before his family piled back into their van and drove north to Lincoln.

NHDOT People



The DOT Dream Team



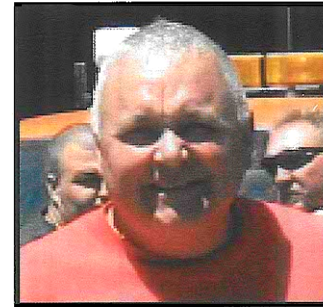
Led by an all NHDOT coaching staff, the Concord 14U All Stars won their second consecutive State Babe Ruth Softball title on July 13 in Rochester. The Concord team then went on to win the New England title in Littleton on July 27 and finished runner-up in a National Invitation Tournament in Varina, Virginia on August 10. Pictured above with their dads are (left to right) Rachel and Bill Boynton (Public Information Officer), Hannah and Dana Parker (Mechanical Services), and Vanessa and Vinnie Benincasa (Turnpikes).

Highway Design



On July 15 Craig Green Administrator of the Highway Design Bureau acknowledged 360 years of service from bureau employees. Pictured above with their years of service are top row left to right: Eric Milliken (20), Alex Vogt (20), CR Willeke (10), John Butler (21), Peter Stamnas (22), Peter Salo (15) and David Smith (15), Bottom row left to right: Jonathan Hebert (15), Keith Cota (30), Wendy Johnson (10), Elizabeth Richardson (12), Brenda Ordway (28), Lysa Bennet-Crouch (15) and Tony King (20). Those not present for the photo were Kerrie Hartshorn (35), Guy Giunta (20), Walter Dudley (20), Michelle Marshall (16) and Mark Wagner (16).

District 3



Charlie Gibbs, Highway Patrol Foreman of Patrol 303 in Freedom retired June 1st with 30+ years employed with the NHDOT. Many employees, retirees, friends and family attended the retirement gathering.

District 2



Stephen Riordon retired July 21 after 25 years of service. Steve had been the patrol foreman in the 211 Patrol in Franklin since 1997. Steve plans to spend more time relaxing during snow storms and working in his son's construction business. Many coworkers, retirees and friends attended a surprise cook-out at the district office.

Editor's note: The following note and poem were sent to District 4 Engineer Doug Graham. Any similarities of the poem to "Casey at the Bat" are purely coincidental.

July 8, 2008

I know that it is July, however I would like to thank, from the bottom of my heart, the people who plow the roads all winter.

When I was coming home from work several times at midnight and I saw those lights on the plow, I was filled with gladness and appreciation.

I also wrote a short poem, with the help of Ernest Lawrence Thayer. Please pass this along to those wonderful plow men (and women).

*Nancy K. Warenda
Washington, NH*

The Mighty Plowmen

**It looked extremely snowy for Hillsborough town that day;
The snow had gathered eight to twelve with much more on the way.**

A few cars crawled along the road, while most sat on the side.

**Then from the gladdened multitude went up a joyous yell --
It rumbled in the mountaintops, it rattled in the dell;**

**It struck upon the hillside and rebounded on Route 9;
For the Plow Men, the Mighty Plowmen were advancing on the road.**

**There was ease in the Plowman's manner as he drove his truck along,
A smile on his face as he doffed his hat.
The plow moved along removing the wet sticky stuff,
Scattering sand and salt in his wake.**

**The Snow does not come down in July, when the sun is shining bright.
But when the white stuff does start falling, when the days have all gone short;**

There will be joy in Hillsborough at the sight of the Plowman's lights.





LETTERS

Editor's note: The below letter was sent to Traffic Bureau Administrator Bill Lambert.

July 28, 2008

Too many times kind gestures are swept aside and the people responsible never get the accolades they deserve.

This is exactly why I am writing you. A couple of weekends ago I was attending a Black Powder Shoot in Canterbury. I went to the Dunkin Donuts in Boscawen and left my wallet on the roof of my car (don't ask) and a couple of your men found it on the side of the road and made every effort to see it was returned to me full and in tact.

These two gentlemen, Paul Emerson and Robert Lauwers, went above and beyond to call my cousin, whose business card was in my wallet and got my cell number, called me and brought it back to me.

I lived in NH for 28 years and recently had to move home to Massachusetts to take care of my Mom and sister who is handicapped. I cannot tell how much I miss New Hampshire. This just makes me want to come back even more.

Elyse Phillipo
Boston, MA

Editor's note: This letter was sent to the Highway Design Bureau.



Hollis Police Department Hollis, New Hampshire

July 9, 2008

On behalf of the Town of Hollis and the Hollis Highway Safety Committee, I would like to express our condolences on the passing of Michael Fudala. We had the opportunity to work with Mike on the Depot Road box culvert replacement. We had serious misgivings about the original plan to divert and detour traffic for several weeks across residential streets in the middle of summer. Those misgivings were dismissed when Mike and his team listened to us, addressed our concerns, and came up with an alternate plan that we could all agree upon. Such concern for small communities is often missing within large government.

I'm sure Mike will be missed by all who had the opportunity to work with him throughout his career.

Russell Ux
Chief of Police



Berlin Housing Authority

August 20, 2009

We have been in the thick of construction here at the entrance to Berlin Housing Authority for two years or so. In preparation for the construction, I signed documents that granted a temporary ROW on our property. At the time it was explained that greenery would be planted. Well, it is a new day and everything is being planted. I must say I am very pleased. Driving to work is like driving on a tree-lined avenue. Our sidewalks are solid granite trimmed walkways that are getting used by our residents now that they are free from construction equipment. It is so nice to see the final result. We are very proud of our property and BHA is very happy with the enhancements.

Mary-Jo Landry
Executive Director

Editor's note: The Construction Bureau's Dennis Laperle, Dan Caouette and Jim Law were involved with this project.

Editor's note: This page was created by Tobey Reynolds to highlight a cost saving and environmentally responsible measure implemented at the Traffic Bureau.

NHDOT - Traffic Bureau

Environmental Management Program Initiative

Sign Recycling Program

Often signs are replaced due to the reduction in reflective qualities. The reflective sheeting is mounted on aluminum which will usually outlast the sheeting.

The practice of stripping off the sheeting and reusing the aluminum has led to cost savings and a reduction in the use of a non-renewable resource, aluminum.



- Recycled material costs 55% less
- Reduction in consumption of a non-renewable resource



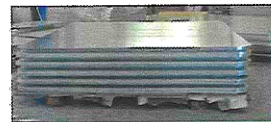
NHDOT - Traffic Bureau

18 Smokey Bear BLVD
Concord, NH 03302

603-271-2291

Environmental Policy

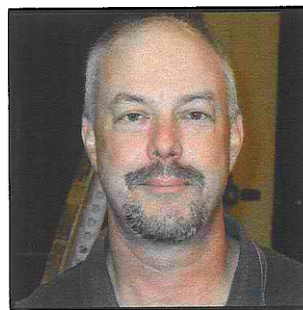
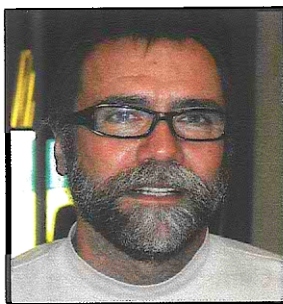
The Bureau of Traffic is committed to the prevention of pollution. It will strive to manage its activities to meet or exceed compliance with applicable laws, regulations and environmental performance standards. The Bureau commits itself to continual improvement through regular reviews of its activities and the implementation of programs that will, where possible, reduce or eliminate negative impacts of those activities upon the environment.



In 2006 & 2007 28,500 sqft of aluminum was stripped. This is equivalent to 4,560 STOP signs.



Traffic Bureau 30-Year Service Awards



Three Traffic Bureau employees were recognized at the Bureau's "end of summer cookout" for each reaching the "30 Years of State Service" milestone. Carl Hussey (above left) is a Light Sign Technician. Mark Carlson (center) is a Traffic Design Engineer. And Walter Keuenhoff (right) is the Superintendent of Outdoor Advertising Control.

A Citizen Idea that Saved the State Millions Gets Recognized with a Sign

The saga began in the early 1980's when the State of New Hampshire (the DOT) announced its intentions to build a bridge across Moore Lake in Littleton as part of its efforts to complete Interstate 93 to the Vermont border.

The pricetag for the new bridge was large - over \$20 million dollars, and that got the attention of a couple of local residents who considered it outrageous. George McAvoy and Ken Curran, a retired contractor, began a two-person campaign to have a causeway built instead of a bridge with the argument that it would be much cheaper and last longer. They would not give up their determined mission and eventually got the attention of Governor Sununu, who told the Department of Transportation to take a look at the causeway idea.

Ultimately, the Department of Transportation changed course and built the causeway for about \$8 million, significantly less than the initial project. The new causeway eventually was named the Curran-McAvoy Causeway, "in recognition of the perseverance, frugality and engineering ingenuity which made this project possible."

Keith Cota (Highway Design) was part of a team that reviewed the causeway option. He says Ken Curran earned his respect in their many discussions as someone with significant engineering experience.

A sign unveiling near the causeway on July 17 gave overdue recognition to the two men responsible for the idea more than 20 years ago. An idea that sounded a little crazy at first, and then became a reality.



George McAvoy checks out the sign that bears his name at an unveiling ceremony near Moore Lake in Littleton.

Bridge Design Team Captures 2008 Commissioner's Cup in Annual Golf Tournament



Getting his first look at the tournament that bears his DOT title, Commissioner George Campbell presented the first place trophy to the winning team in the 2008 Commissioner's Cup Golf Tourney. Pictured left to right are: Nick Goulas, Steve Johnson, Pete Parenteau, Commissioner Campbell and Gary Clark.

A lot of birdies and no bogies was the successful formula for the Bridge Design team that took top honors in the 2008 Commissioner's Golf Tournament held on September 10 at the Crotched Mountain Country Club in Franconia. The foursome of Pete Parenteau, Gary Clark, Nick Goulas and Steve Johnson finished 11 under par with a winning score of 61.

Second place (62) went to the "Eagles" team that included Dane Prescott, Steve LeBaron, Kevin Russell and Jamie Sikora. Not far behind in third (65) were the "Shamrocks" - Fred Murphy, Marty Walsh, Lisa Cummings and Jim Whelan.

A total of 32 teams of Department of Transportation employees and retirees participated in the annual event, which included raffle prizes and a barbecue lunch.

Right of Way File Cabinet Yields 175 Year Old Newspaper Printed in Concord

It's not unusual to find old newspaper clippings when checking out transportation files in the Morton Building. But Lynn Riel knew right away that this one was unique.

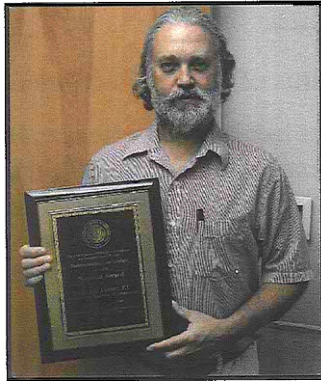
The Right-of-Way Agent was looking in a "Londonderry Turnpike" folder when there it was - a well-preserved edition of the "New Hampshire Patriot and State Gazette" dated Monday, October 21, 1833.

"I knew this was special and needed to be saved," Lynn said. She contacted the Public Information Office and connections were made to the New Hampshire Historical Society, which was more than willing to accept the historical nugget.

The paper had many fascinating stories that provided insights of the time period when Andrew Jackson was seven months into his second term as the 7th U.S. President. There was the report on the steamboat accident in Hartford that killed four and injured 30, and a news brief on "a musket proof garment" invented by two Italians. Among the items for sale at the Concord Market House across from the State House - beef tongues, salted fish, pork and lard. There was also notice of the annual meeting of the "proprietors" of the Boscawen Bridge to see "what method will be used to repair or rebuild said bridge and toll house". A notice from a Henry Chesley promised "a suitable reward" for the return of nine-year old Charles H. Chesley, who "ran away from his parents."



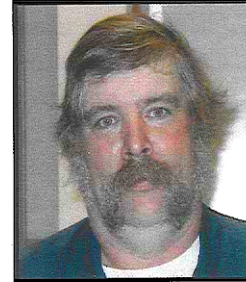
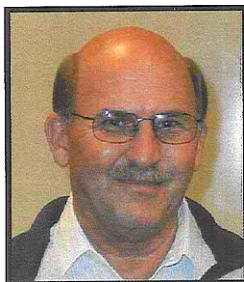
Lynn Riel displays an original 1833 version of the New Hampshire Patriot and Sate Gazette.



Don Lyford Recognized with National Engineering Award

Highway Design project manager Don Lyford has been recognized by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) "for outstanding service and exceptional contributions" to AASHTO's Subcommittee on Design. The Northfield resident has worked for the NHDOT since 1979 and has served on the national subcommittee since 1992. Much of Don's work has been on helping to update the "Green Book" manual on geometric design.

Three NHDOT employees were recognized at the September major staff meeting for each reaching the 25-year milestone in service to the State of New Hampshire. Tom Balint (below left), an Engineering Technician 5, and Jim Irwin (center) a Systems Development Specialist 3, work in the Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance. Wayne Perkins (right) was recently promoted to Assistant Highway Patrol Foreman in District 3's Tuftonboro #311.



Concord Traffic Stop Leads to Four Tickets - To a NASCAR Race

LJ Place had never been pulled over while driving by a police officer. So it's understandable the visual design specialist for the NHDOT's Highway Design Bureau was a little upset when she saw the blue lights in her rear view mirror.

LJ soon found out from the State Trooper that he had stopped her not for what she had done wrong, but for what she had done right. She had correctly abided by the state's "Move Over Law", which calls for oncoming motorists to give a wide berth to stopped police or emergency vehicles displaying blue, red or amber warning lights.

The trooper quickly assured LJ that she had done nothing wrong, but she was still going to get a ticket - actually four of them to the September 14 race at the NH Motor Speedway in Loudon from NASCAR driver Clint Bowyer who joined the trooper to make the presentation. The traffic stop was an effective stunt repeated several times that attracted widespread publicity for the revised law that adds amber lights (and thus DOT vehicles) as among those that must be given space when stopped along a highway.

"Oh this is fantastic," LJ told the Boston Globe. "I thought I was in trouble. I thought I couldn't have been going too fast, because I pulled over like I'm supposed to."

When asked by the trooper and Bowyer if she was familiar with the law, LJ said yes - and that it was an important change for DOT employees. By the way, the ultimate beneficiary of the traffic stop was LJ's husband Terry (Traffic Bureau), who received the tickets for his 40th birthday.



LJ Place displays the "traffic tickets" she was given for properly obeying the State's "Move Over Law". These NASCAR tickets got her family a great spot on turn 3 at the NH Motor Speedway.



Students went flying with DWC flight instructors in school-owned Cessnas, toured airports and visited the Christa McAuliffe Planetarium in Concord.

The NHDOT's Aeronautics Bureau sponsors the ACE camps each year with supplies and materials, and time volunteered assisting instructors and campers. This sponsorship would not be possible without the support Aeronautics receives from within the DOT, including LJ Place (Highway Design), who designed the campers' flight log book, and the Print Shop.

Young Dreams of Flying Become Reality

Talk about hands-on experience. It's one thing for a teenager to read about it in a book. It's quite another to actually experience first-hand all aspects of working in the field of aviation.

A total of 29 young people took advantage of the 2008 ACE (Aviation Career Education) Camp held during a July week at Daniel Webster College (DWC) in Nashua. They learned about what it takes to become a pilot, an air traffic controller, build an airport and many other avenues to be successful in the aviation field.

